

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION REAL ESTATE LEASING AUTHORITY REVOCATION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 1, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Securities and Exchange Commission Real Estate Leasing Authority Revocation Act, which would revoke the real estate leasing authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Since the SEC was granted leasing authority in 1990, before I came to Congress, the SEC has consistently stumbled through leasing mistakes at great expense to taxpayers. It is time for Congress to end this fiasco and return the leasing authority to the General Services Administration (GSA), the federal government's real estate arm, like other federal agencies.

When Congress exempted the SEC from GSA regulations and directives in 1990, it expressed its clear intent that "the authority granted to the Commission to lease its own office space directly will be exercised vigorously by the Commission to achieve actual cost savings and to increase the Commission's productivity and efficiency." (H.R. Conf. Rep. 101-924.) Over the past 30 years, none of that has come to fruition.

The SEC did not even establish a Leasing Branch until April 2009, and did not put into place any leasing policies or procedures until August 2010. Before that, in May 2005, the SEC disclosed that it had identified unbudgeted costs of approximately \$48 million attributable to misestimates and omissions of costs associated with the construction of its headquarters near Union Station. In 2007, after moving into its headquarters, the SEC shuffled its employees to different office spaces at a cost of over \$3 million without any cost-benefit analysis or justifiable rationale.

In the summer of 2010, the SEC's Office of Administrative Services (OAS) conducted a deeply flawed and unsound analysis to justify the need for the SEC to lease 900,000 square feet of space at Constitution Center and to commit over \$500 million over 10 years, overestimating the amount of space needed by over 300 percent. In addition to this gross overestimation of space, OAS failed to provide complete and accurate information and prepared a faulty and backdated Justification and Approval after it had already signed the lease.

As a former chair and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, I was deeply involved in oversight of the SEC's real estate activities in the District of Columbia after the agency engaged in this improper sole-source procurement of nearly one million square feet of leased space. We held two hearings on this subject in 2011. At the first hearing, titled "The Security and Exchange Commission's \$500 Million Fleecing of

America," SEC Inspector General H. David Kotz testified that employees ignored the SEC chair's explicit instructions and engaged in possible criminal violations in a sole-source procurement. He also supported stripping the SEC of leasing authority if the SEC did not undertake major reforms. I agreed with Inspector General Kotz's evaluation and introduced legislation to revoke the SEC's leasing authority for the first time.

At the second hearing, titled "The Security and Exchange Commission's \$500 Million Fleecing of America: Part Two," SEC Chairwoman Mary L. Schapiro testified that "the SEC recognizes the benefits of having [GSA] manage the Commission's future lease acquisitions. Leasing is not part of the Commission's core mission and we cannot allow it to impede that mission." She then explained that the SEC would pare down its leasing program "solely to liaise with GSA." This arrangement, in which GSA manages SEC leasing activities, was memorialized in a Memorandum of Understanding between GSA and the SEC on August 1, 2011.

Today, I have concerns that the SEC is going back on the commitment it made to Congress, which is why I am reintroducing this bill. In August 2016, GSA and the SEC entered into an Occupancy Agreement to authorize GSA to conduct the process for a new 15-year lease. In December 2016, GSA, with the approval of the SEC, submitted a prospectus to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for approximately 1,274,000 rentable square feet for the SEC. Congress approved this prospectus in 2018, and by July 2019, GSA had received final bids, resolved all protests and even selected a final bidder. A month later, in August 2019, the SEC canceled the Occupancy Agreement with GSA, citing concerns about the value of the purchase option that was part of the lease, concerns the SEC refused to document to Congress. The SEC effectively vetoed the entire procurement process despite not having the authority or funding mechanism to exercise the purchase option without GSA's involvement. After a few more months of impasse, the SEC requested that GSA cancel the procurement and commence a new procurement process.

In all this back and forth between two agencies navigating a convoluted authority structure, a multi-million-dollar procurement funded by taxpayers has gone to waste, adding to the hundreds of millions of dollars the SEC has previously squandered in its real estate endeavors. These public blunders also risk undermining the reputation of GSA and the federal government among developers and building owners that participate in these lease procurements and ultimately driving up the costs of all GSA real estate procurements due to the threat of uncertainty. This also means that the SEC will continue to engage in short-term leases at a premium while the procurement process plays out again, instead of quickly transitioning to a more cost-effective long-term lease as planned. Congress created this con-

fusion by granting the SEC leasing authority, and now Congress must fix it by revoking that authority.

The SEC's mission is to protect investors; maintain fair, orderly, and efficient markets; and facilitate capital formation. GSA's mission is to provide other civilian federal agencies with workspace and furnishings at best value to the taxpayer. As the SEC has demonstrated over three decades, it is incredibly inefficient, wasteful and redundant to have the SEC involved in the nuances of real estate decisions when GSA exists for that very reason. Like other federal agencies, the SEC would continue to have input and involvement in the decision-making process, but the ultimate real estate authority would lie with GSA, where it belongs.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I was unavailable to vote in the House on February 17, 2021 and February 26, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted: Roll Call 41: NAY; Roll Call 42: YEA; Roll Call 43: YEA; Roll Call 44: YEA; Roll Call 45: NAY; Roll Call 46: NAY; Roll Call 47: NAY; Roll Call 48: YEA; and Roll Call 49: NAY.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. KINZINGER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast votes on February 26. Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 45.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HOT SPRINGS RESIDENT MILLIE PATRICK

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of a true servant of the City of Hot Springs and Arkansas' Fourth Congressional District, Ms. Millie Patrick. She passed away on Friday, February 12, 2021, after years of hard work and sacrifice for her beloved community.

Described by those closest to her as a wonderful friend, Ms. Patrick worked with the Greater Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

for over two decades. During this time, she also served as director for Hot Springs Leadership Adult Classes until her retirement in 2020 and as Vice President of Retirement and Relocation.

Born June 28, 1932, in Kansas, Ms. Patrick later made Arkansas home with her husband, Gene Patrick. Together, they had two daughters, three grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. As a member of Piney Grove United Methodist Church and an avid water-skiier until the age of 86, Ms. Patrick was known to be an active woman. Referred to by her friends and colleagues as a "wonderful soul and a true ambassador for Hot Springs," Ms. Patrick shines as a true example of joyful service.

I take this time today to honor the life of service exemplified by Ms. Millie Patrick. I thank her and her family for their dedication to our fellow citizens and our beloved Fourth District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 45.

IN RECOGNITION OF GERRY ECKENRODE

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Delone Catholic High School Squirettes basketball coach Gerry Eckenrode on his 500th victory as head coach.

Coach Eckenrode began his tenure with Delone's girls' basketball team as head coach during the 1999–2000 season. Under his leadership, Delone Catholic has won four state championships, four district championships, and 14 division titles. His teams have excelled, winning at least 18 games per season. Coach Eckenrode has coached five of the school's 1,000-point scorers. Additionally, he has a robust legacy of mentoring new coaches.

Congratulations to Coach Gerry Eckenrode and the entire Delone Catholic girls' basketball community on this remarkable achievement. As he continues to lead the Delone Catholic Squirettes, I wish Coach Eckenrode and his team all the best.

PEACE CORPS REAUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to reintroduce the "Peace Corps

Reauthorization Act" on today, the 60th anniversary of the Peace Corps' founding and the start of National Peace Corps Week. I want to thank my fellow Congressional Peace Corps Caucus co-chair Representative GRAVES (R-LA), as well as Representatives MENG (D-NY), RADEWAGEN (R-AS), PHILLIPS (D-MN), CASE (D-HI), and SIRES (D-NJ), for their support as original cosponsors.

Like successive generations of young Americans, my wife Patti and I answered President John F. Kennedy's call and served in the Peace Corps in Ethiopia from 1966 to 1968. This foundational experience inspired our lifetime of service that continued into California state government, the Clinton Administration, and now the United States Congress.

Since the establishment of the Peace Corps in 1961, more than 230,000 American volunteers have served in some 141 countries around the world. Due to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, the Peace Corps was forced to recall all volunteers serving in 65 countries in March 2020. Now more than ever, Congress must support the Peace Corps' mission and realize President Kennedy's vision of generations of young Americans, ready to serve their nation and make the world a better place.

Our "Peace Corps Reauthorization Act" would do just that by providing additional federal resources to better support current and returned volunteers. This bipartisan bill would also provide the funding necessary to redeploy Peace Corps volunteers once it is safe to do so after the COVID-19 pandemic subsides, with the goal of finally reaching 10,000 volunteers serving annually around the world.

This bipartisan bill builds upon the Sam Farr and Nick Castle Peace Corps Reform Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–256) and the Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act of 2011 (Public Law 112–57) sponsored by former Congressman Ted Poe (R-TX). The bill also builds upon legislation sponsored by former Congressman Sam Farr (D-CA), who served in the Peace Corps in Colombia from 1964 to 1966.

As co-chair of the Congressional Peace Corps Caucus, I continue working in support of the Peace Corps' mission, its volunteers, and the indelible impact their service has on the lives of needy people the world over. Congress last reauthorized the Peace Corps in 1999 (Public Law 106–30), expiring at the end of fiscal year 2003. So, my bipartisan "Peace Corps Reauthorization Act" is long overdue.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to working with the new Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman GREGORY W. MEEKS (D-NY) and Ranking Member MICHAEL MCCAUL (R-TX) to pass the "Peace Corps Reauthorization Act" this Congress. I encourage all members of the House to cosponsor this bipartisan bill.

HONORING WILEY RICKMAN WHITE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Wiley Rickman White. Mr. White was born January 14, 1931 in Mounds, Oklahoma. He was the ninth born of 10 children to the union of

Norecker Harrell and Frank Joseph White. Mr. White grew up in a Christian family where Christian values were instilled and reinforced by his parents and their Church.

He attended public schools in Mounds and graduated from Wheatly High School where he played football.

Mr. White was an exceptional athlete at his High School and as a result of his abilities, he earned a football scholarship to attend Jackson State University in Mississippi where he displayed his talent on the field as a member of the JSU Tigers football team for four years as an undergraduate. Later, Mr. White was honored by his Alma Mater by being inducted in the Sports Hall of Fame wherein he was the 35th athlete to be inducted into the Hall of Fame in the University's 103-year existence. As an honoree Mr. White was presented a plaque and a medal.

Mr. White was also a very good student where he maintained a 3.5 grade average and was a Charter Member of The Delta Delta Chapter, Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity, Inc. Mr. White completed college and earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree even while his studies were temporarily interrupted to serve his time in the U.S. Military where he moved up in the ranks as Sergeant in the U.S. Army serving in the Korean War. He earned an Honorable Discharge in 1960.

Jackson State University is where Mr. White met the love of his life, Miriam H. Webb. The two married on December 22, 1951 and welcomed two children into the family during the mid-sixties. After finishing college and fulfilling his service obligation the two moved to Los Angeles, California in 1955. There, Mr. White worked at Markham Jr. High School as a physical education instructor. Because of his love for sports and athleticism, Mr. White began officiating high school basketball sporting events. He was later recognized by the IAABO (International Association of Approved Basketball Officials) as the first negro ever elected Secretary Treasurer of the organization. The IAABO is the largest organization of its kind in the world where they have jurisdiction over all high schools, semipro, and small college basketball officials. Mr. White also taught and coached football at Jordan High School in Los Angeles.

Education was very important to Mr. White and he enrolled in The University of Southern California (USC) where he received a master's degree in business administration. Mr. White then expanded his career in teaching and worked as an educator/administrator in the Los Angeles Unified School District for 30 plus years and held positions as a classroom teacher, assistant counselor, assistant registrar, coach, youth service director, student body advisor, and vice principal mainly at the high school level until he officially retired in 1992.

From 1968 through 1969 Wiley and his beautiful wife Miriam, built their dream home in Baldwin Hills, CA and moved their family into the home where they raised their children. The home was the site for many family parties, gatherings, holiday dinners, reunions, rehearsals, and meetings where he hosted numerous Jackson State University Alumni meetings and served as the Alumni's President for the Los Angeles Chapter.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the late Mr. Wiley Rickman White.

HONORING THE WORK OF WHITKO
CAREER ACADEMY

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Whitko Career Academy in Whitley County for their impressive and important work to help young Hoosiers succeed in the 21st century workforce. Part of Whitko Community Schools in Larwill, Whitko Career Academy was founded in September 2019 to help create career opportunities for students in the surrounding community.

Upwards of 500 students walk through the doors of the academy each day. Inside, each student engages in hands-on, skills-based learning. Made possible through partnerships with The 80/20 Foundation Trust and The Whitley County Community Foundation, the academy gives these students the tools they need to pursue livelihoods in manufacturing, engineering, agriculture, technology, education and more.

Earlier this month, the academy formed a three-way partnership with WishBone Medical Inc. in Warsaw and Red Star Contract Manufacturing to bolster the academy's engineering curriculum. Students will be manufacturing components for one of Wish Bone's pediatric medical devices. This year, the academy will also serve as the home of the Whitko Agricultural Program and Future Farmers of America—organizations together dedicated to training the next generation of leaders in agriculture.

In the year and a half since its founding, Whitko Career Academy has established itself as a model for career and technical education. Hoosiers are thankful for, and proud of, this institution for the immediate impact it has brought to northeast Indiana. This record is testament to the life-changing education hundreds of young Hoosiers have received, and will continue to receive, at the Whitko Career Academy for years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
REMINGTON KRISTINE VINEY

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. KINZINGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Remington Kristine Viney, who passed away on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at the age of 26. Through passion for aviation and flying, Remington dedicated herself to service as a member of the Wisconsin Air National Guard. Remington was always flying in the seat of an airplane surrounded by miles of breathtaking sky doing what she loved.

On March 14, 1994, Remington was born in Madison, Wisconsin, daughter to Kevin and Tia (Scanlon) Viney. She would then graduate with honors from Sun Prairie High School in 2012, earn an associate degree in tactical aircraft maintenance, and then receive a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from UW-Madison in 2017. Her accomplishments were many, but her most memorable asset

and what was most important to her was the depth and breadth of her relationships with family and friends.

Remington was passionate about any adventure that life had to offer and obtained her pilot license in high school. While in college, she was the captain of the Wisconsin Flying Team. Additionally, she was a founding member of the Women in Aviation, Madison chapter. Remington enlisted in the Wisconsin Air National Guard in 2013 where she proudly served through several deployments and obtained the rank of staff sergeant. She pursued accreditations and licensing to receive her commercial pilot license in addition to becoming a flight instructor. Further, Remington was working on a degree in Airframe and Powerplant Mechanics.

During her service in the Air National Guard, Remington met the love of her life, fellow service member, Kyle Henry. They shared so much together, including her passion for real estate, flying, and raising her future stepson, Kellan. Above all else, her family was the anchor of her life, and she was so excited for her future with her fiancé, Kyle.

Madam Speaker, I want to express my condolences, but encourage family, friends, and the community to celebrate the life of Remington Kristine Viney, for her service to our country and love for life. My thoughts and prayers remain with her family and friends during this difficult time.

IN TRIBUTE TO DR. JOAN M.
PRINCE

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Joan M. Prince, the Vice Chancellor of Global Inclusion and Engagement at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM). After more than two decades of working with distinction and serving her alma mater, she is retiring on March 1, 2021.

Dr. Prince's education career with UWM began as a promising freshman when she was 16 years old. She was the first African American recipient of a bachelor's in medical technology and a master's in clinical laboratory science. She joined St. Joseph's Hospital as a hematologist and, in 1988, she became the supervisor in hematology for the Medical Science Labs. Around the same time, she began working for the University of Wisconsin's Medical school where she implemented the Health Professional Partnership Initiative's collaborative project as lead strategist.

Equipped with a strong educational background and a breadth of experience, she began her 20-year career with UWM when she was appointed Vice Chancellor in 2000. She went on to earn a Ph.D. from UWM in Urban Education, with a focus on STEM education. At UWM she is also the Chief Administrator for the Divisions of Global Inclusion and Engagement, and Partnerships and Innovation, with responsibilities as the University's Chief Inclusion Officer. She led campus-wide project areas such as the STEM Inspire Pipeline, the Inclusive Internationalization Projects, Global Partnerships in STEM, Center for Inter-

national Health, Carnegie Engagement Classification team, Center for Community Solutions, and Equity and Diversity Services. Dr. Prince has led many important campus-wide initiatives that include the establishment of the first anti-bias training curriculum, as well as the formation of a program dedicated to advancing historically underrepresented students and first-generation students in the STEM field.

Outside of work, Dr. Prince's commitment to community service extended to working to meet the needs of students in underserved communities, including minorities, women, children, entrepreneurs and small businesses. She served in a variety of leadership positions, civic organizations and was board member and governance chair of The Council on Foundations, the International Foundation Membership Association and the Urban Libraries Council. She is also a corporate board director of Managed Health Services, a subsidiary of the Centene Corporation, a director emeritus of C. G. Schmidt Construction Company and a corporate director of Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation.

Dr. Prince has received recognition and numerous awards for her commitment to community service from civic and professional organizations such as The Business Journal's Woman of Influence award, The Community Leadership award (Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund) and the Friends of the Hispanic Community award. She was named one of the ten most powerful women in Milwaukee in the February 2006 issue of Milwaukee Magazine and is featured as an honoree in the national 2008 Black Women in Sisterhood Distinguished Black Women calendar. She is also spotlighted as a nominee in the national African American oral history archival project, The History Makers.

On September 12, 2012, Dr. Prince was nominated by President Barack Obama to the key administrative post of alternate representative to the 67th General Assembly of the United Nations with the honorary rank of ambassador. This diplomatic position also maintained an appointment position as Senior Advisor to the State Department and Public Delegate.

Dr. Prince leaves behind a legacy of a long list of accomplishments. She is someone that cares deeply about her former students, the individuals she mentored, her colleagues and the greater community. For the more than 25 years that I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with her, she has been a tremendous force in the City of Milwaukee, the State of Wisconsin and the United States. Madam Speaker, I am so proud to honor Dr. Joan M. Prince and to call her a friend. I wish her much success as she transitions into this new phase of her life.

CONGRATULATING BRYER HALL

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bryer Hall of East Central High school for becoming the 170-pound Indiana State Wrestling Champion.

Wrapping up his astonishing 38-0 season record, Bryer won all four of his state competition matches by pinfall, becoming only one of

nine in Indiana wrestling history to have done so.

Having placed runner-up in the state final last year, Bryer is a true example that hard work and dedication pay off.

I congratulate Bryer, he has made the Sixth District proud.

IN MEMORY OF JAMES "JIM" E.
ALTY, SR.

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor James "Jim" E. Alty, Sr., a Vietnam hero and active member of the seacoast community, who passed in late January at the age of 86. Through both his military service and his subsequent community engagement, he is remembered as a shining example of American fortitude, ingenuity, and empathy.

While Jim worked at General Electric for 15 years, he also served his country for 20 years in the U.S. Air Force, which included two tours in Vietnam as part of the crash and rescue team, before retiring in 1973. In Vietnam, Jim's bases were frequently targeted by rocket and mortar attacks, which included the October 2, 1968 attack that left four airmen dead. Jim never forgot those he served with and honored them with a list of their names in his wallet.

In his retirement, he engaged heavily in community service. His involvement included membership on the Dover HUB Family Resource Board, an organization that provides family education services, as well as volunteered with local police and correctional departments on reentry projects.

Jim also advocated for veterans' health services as he was also familiar with the realities and struggles many face when returning from war and readjusting to life outside of combat. One of his proudest accomplishments was aiding in the opening of the new Somersworth VA Clinic in 2019. Jim also created the Dover veterans support group, Bets for Vets, and frequently transported fellow veterans from Manchester to Boston to ensure they received necessary counseling and medical treatment.

On behalf of all of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I share my condolences to Jim's sister and brothers, three children, five grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. As we recognize Mr. Alty, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring his rich life and legacy. May his memory be a blessing.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HAMBURG
MAYOR DANE WEINDORF

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mayor of Hamburg, Dane Alan Weindorf. He passed away at the age of 75 on Saturday, February 20, 2021,

leaving behind a community of friends and a legacy of hard work, sacrifice, and service.

After opening his first local grocery store in 1972, Mayor Weindorf grew his business to seven grocery stores in what came to be known as Joe and Dane Enterprises, or JADE's chain of stores. Weindorf retired with 30 years of service in the industry, which led to his desire to continue doing great things for his community. He was elected Mayor shortly after his retirement, and he worked on a variety of projects that led Hamburg to further success, such as renovations to city parks, the baseball park, and a new fire station.

Born on September 20, 1946, in Minnesota, Mayor Weindorf was one of six siblings. He and wife, Annette, of 38 years have two sons, two daughters, eight grandchildren, and seven grandchildren. With his passion for his large family and membership at First Baptist Church of Hamburg, Mayor Weindorf was known not just for his service, but also for his emphasis on personal relationships, friendship, and fellowship with his community.

I take this time today to honor the life of service exemplified by Mayor Weindorf. I thank him and his family for their dedication to our fellow citizens and our beloved Fourth District.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE VICTIMS
OF THE BAKU AND SUMGAI T PO-
GROMS AND THE 2020 AZER-
BAIJANI ATTACKS ON ARTSAKH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 33rd Anniversary of the Sumgait pogrom and the 31st Anniversary of the Baku pogrom.

On February 27, 1988, hundreds of Armenian civilians living in the city of Sumgait in Azerbaijan were indiscriminately killed, raped, maimed, and even burned alive because of their ethnicity. Hostile, anti-Armenian rhetoric from Azerbaijani citizens and officials instigated this tragedy.

Similarly, on January 12, 1990, a seven-day pogrom broke out against the Armenian population in Baku during which Armenians were beaten, murdered, and expelled from the city. Over 90 Armenian civilians were killed, over 700 were injured, and countless others were permanently displaced by the ethnic violence that ensued.

For over three decades, Azerbaijan has taken steps to cover up these crimes against humanity and dismiss the atrocities at Sumgait and Baku. Even more disturbing, the Azeri government lauded the perpetrators of this event and similar violent attacks.

Tragically, the Azerbaijani government's approach toward Armenians has changed little since the Sumgait and Baku pogroms. We saw similar rhetoric right before Azerbaijan's attacks on Artsakh last fall. Azeri forces, Turkish drones, and Turkish-backed mercenaries conducted an indiscriminate bombing campaign against large population centers that killed thousands of Armenians and displaced tens of thousands more civilians. It also included appalling war crimes against Armenians at the hands of Azerbaijani forces and

foreign mercenaries that included beheadings, torture, and other abhorrent acts of violence.

I continue to stand with the Armenian people in condemning the horrific pogroms and in mourning the loss of those who were senselessly killed in the recent Artsakh attacks. It is critical for the United States to recognize and denounce violent assaults against any civilians. If we do not condemn or punish crimes against humanity and ethnic violence, we become passive bystanders, failing to live up to the lessons of the 20th Century and the rights of all human to live free from violence and persecution based on race, ethnicity, or religion. These lessons are especially important as we prepare to commemorate the 106th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in April.

I will continue to work with my colleagues on the Congressional Armenian Issues Caucus to honor the victims of the Baku and Sumgait pogroms and the recent victims of Azerbaijani aggressions in Artsakh. I will continue to condemn all acts of violence against people who are targeted simply because of who they are. I hope my colleagues will join me in rejecting violent rhetoric and intimidation. In doing so, we renew our commitment to achieving a lasting peace in the Caucasus.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALEXANDER X. MOONEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. MOONEY. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 48.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. VICTORIA SPARTZ

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 26, 2021

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1319. This \$1.9 trillion spending package is being considered without meaningful debate and without Republican input. While more than 200 Republican amendments were proposed, Democrats only accepted two.

I personally authored five commonsense amendments to improve government transparency and accountability, assist juvenile justice and foster care systems, and address concerns with standardized testing. All of them were unanimously rejected by Democrats.

We must take action to address the consequences of the coronavirus pandemic, but this bill does not address the concerns of everyday Americans. It addresses the desires of the Majority. It also does not address small business struggles. Instead, it adds more regulations on businesses already suffering from the pandemic.

Less than nine percent of the \$1.9 trillion authorized in this bill goes to defeating COVID-19. Under this package, taxpayers will have to finance the wish list of the Majority passed under the guise of relief.

Democrats' partisanship stands in the way of meaningful discussions about how to best

serve our constituents. The American people need Congressional action to crush COVID-19. While there are portions of this bill I could support, I cannot support it in its current form.

MENSTRUAL EQUITY IN THE PEACE CORPS ACT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, for 60 years, Peace Corps has been an enduring symbol of peace and friendship between the U.S. and our global community. Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) sacrifice over two years of their time, working side by side with local leadership to combat some of the most pressing challenges of our generation.

Unfortunately, I have heard from too many PCVs who have struggled to access and afford menstrual products. PCVs, and Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) have shared with me how menstrual products are not readily available, or these items are far more expensive than they would be in the U.S. So many of these volunteers are also placed in very remote locations—forcing them to travel extremely far distances to access menstrual products.

Additionally, while the Peace Corps Medical Officers in some countries provides these products for PCVs, volunteers in other countries are forced to purchase these products out of the same limited stipend everyone else receives. Other volunteers pay hundreds of dollars out-of-pocket to ship these items from the U.S. to their country of service, or they wait to receive these items in their care packages from loved ones back home.

This is simply wrong. Menstrual products are not luxury items; they are medical necessities. Menstrual equity is a basic health right and human right.

That is why, today, on the 60th Anniversary of Peace Corps, I am reintroducing the Menstrual Equity in the Peace Corps Act to ensure that all PCVs have free and equitable access to menstrual products.

For the 65 percent of PCVs who are women, and the more than 90 percent of PCVs who are under the age of 50, this is simply a matter of equity. The Menstrual Equity in the Peace Corps Act would direct the Peace Corps Director to establish a comprehensive policy that makes available free menstrual products to PCVs who require them, or increase stipends to allow for those expenses.

Today, on the 60th Anniversary of the founding of Peace Corps, I recognize the bravery of all my constituents who have served in Peace Corps, and I am proud to reintroduce this critical bill that upholds the health and safety of all who answer the call to serve in Peace Corps. I thank my colleagues who have joined me in this critical legislation, and I urge its swift passage to ensure menstrual equity for all Peace Corps Volunteers.

TRIBUTE FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EDWARDS V. SOUTH CAROLINA MARCH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an important anniversary that brings the actions of my youth full circle to my service in this esteemed body.

Sixty years ago, a student-led march took place in South Carolina's capital city protesting state laws designed to maintain de jure segregation of Blacks and whites in my home state. The arrests that day, March 2, 1961, resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark breach of the peace ruling. The case, *Edwards v. South Carolina*, is still taught in law schools today. I was among the student protestors arrested that day for seeking equal justice and civil rights, and I am proud of the role this event played in protecting the right to protest peacefully in this country.

On that momentous day, approximately 200 high school and college students from all over South Carolina gathered at Zion Baptist Church in Columbia and marched to the State House to protest racial discrimination. As a 20-year-old student protest leader at South Carolina State College (now University), I left Orangeburg with several of my classmates to join in the march. We divided into groups, and I agreed to lead a contingency of students from my high school Mather Academy toward the State House grounds. When we approached the State House, law enforcement officers ordered us to turn around. It had been my intention to do just that, but the students I was leading wanted to press on. We marched on singing hymns and patriotic songs. 191 protestors were arrested for breaching the peace and spent the next three days in jail before being released on bail.

There were four separate bench trials that March and 189 students were convicted in Magistrate's Court despite the exemplary representation of NAACP attorney Matthew J. Perry and his colleagues, Lincoln Jenkins II and Donald Sampson. All but two of the protestors appealed their convictions, which were upheld by the South Carolina Supreme Court.

On December 13, 1962, the *Edwards v. South Carolina* case, named for Benedict College protestor James Edwards, was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court by Matthew Perry. On February 25, 1963, the high court ruled eight to one in favor of the student defendants, reversing their convictions.

Justice Potter Stewart wrote in the majority opinion that a state cannot "make criminal the peaceful expression of unpopular views." Since that ruling, *Edwards v. South Carolina* has been cited as the precedent in more than 70 breach of the peace cases.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the contributions of the student protestors in *Edwards v. South Carolina* as we remember their protest 60 years ago. As one of the young people involved in this historic event, I can attest that we were committed to the fight for civil rights, and had no idea that our actions would contribute to preserving the right to peacefully protest for future generations.

Today similar tactics are being employed in movements like Black Lives Matter. I applaud their efforts and thank the City of Columbia, Historic Columbia and the University of South Carolina for the monument they have erected to memorialize this momentous event.

TRIBUTE TO DEACON DAVIES JOHNSON

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, to be of service to humanity is one of the greatest attributes one can have. Such was the life and character traits of Davies Johnson. Born and raised in rural Arkansas on the border of Louisiana, in the little town of Wilmot, Arkansas, Davies married his childhood sweetheart Mabel Parker in 1953 and migrated to Chicago, Illinois where they made their home and their lives. Davies was employed by the Burlington Railroad where he began as a Porter and became a Crane Operator and retired as a Supervisor after thirty-three years. Mr. Johnson was always kind and considerate. He was Christian-orientated and joined the Lord's Way Missionary Baptist Church in 1973. At Lord's Way, Mr. Johnson served on the Trustee Board, Sunday School Superintendent, Chairman of the Deacon Board and as anything else the church needed him to do. Deacon Johnson was a stalwart in his family and the community where he lived. He was a man of high standards and was well regarded by all who knew him. The world became a better place because Davies Johnson lived, and my life was enriched by knowing him. May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF JOHN SCHIECHE

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of John Schieche, Superintendent of the East Valley School District, who is retiring after 43 years of shaping the next generation of Central Washington students.

As a farmer, it is my duty to highlight the fact that John was first exposed to teaching during his days managing a 1,500-acre wheat farm. It was not uncommon for John to hire high school students as farmhands during the summer months and teach them how to operate heavy machinery. This experience made for an easy transition into teaching as an auto mechanics and shop teacher.

Over the years, John excelled in all areas of education, most recently, he was awarded the 2018 Crystal Apple Award for his dedication to advancing school communications.

John started his journey to becoming superintendent in the early 1990's after being hired by the Yakima School District to serve as Director of the Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center.

During his time in that leadership role, John was also pursuing his credentials to become a

superintendent from my alma mater, Washington State University. Go Cougs.

John was hired to serve as East Valley's superintendent in 2002, and during his tenure, three of the district's schools have been recognized by the state as distinguished schools for their teaching and learning methods.

I wish him all the best as he makes his transition into retirement and returns to farm life. I thank John for everything he has done for our districts' students, and from one lifelong farmer to another, try not to work too hard.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1280, THE GEORGE FLOYD JUSTICE IN POLICING ACT OF 2021

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 1, 2021

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to affirm my support for H.R. 1280, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021.

Last summer, in the wake of George Floyd's horrific murder, people in communities sweeping the nation and the world took to the streets to express anger born of despair. His death was not an isolated incident—but another in a long, tragic pattern of injustices committed against the Black community at the hands of law enforcement. And each incident, however severe, serves as a sobering reminder of the systemic racism still woven into the fabric of our institutions.

For many, the death of George Floyd is merely an eye-opening introduction to the harsh, unequal application of justice unfairly meted on the Black community. But for us, this is nothing new. Many decades ago, I remember having the conversation with my parents about how to act during a police encounter. Fast forward to a newer generation, I was forced to have that same conversation with my son—but it does not stop there. As my son raised his three sons, he too had to repeat this morbid discussion with my grandsons. For far too long, for too many generations, we have tolerated and suffered the consequences of racism in our way of life. But at this moment, in the wake of so much pain and grief, Congress has a moral responsibility to meet the calls for bold and transformative change.

As such to support federal policies to address this ongoing issue, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 1280, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. This proposed legislation would: ban the use of no-knock warrants and deadly chokeholds; limit the transfer of military-grade equipment to police departments; and, most importantly, put into place several reforms to make it easier to hold police officers accountable for misconduct. If enacted, the Justice in Policing Act will be a critical first—but necessary first—step on the path towards racial reconciliation.

It is important to note that this legislation alone cannot right the wrongs of the past, nor will it guarantee the total prevention of injustices in the future. Rather, we must empower our communities to reimagine public safety in an equitable manner. This means reinvesting—not defunding—police department re-

sources to prioritize community-based safety efforts. Further, I am pleased that the Justice in Policing Act supports this proposal by providing public safety innovation grants for localities to reassess current practices.

To those who called, wrote, and visited my offices to relay your support for this bill, know that my vote today lends action to your voices. You have inspired me with your dedicated and tireless advocacy for justice, and it is because of you that I am optimistic for the success of our individual and collective cause.

Black lives matter, Madam Speaker, and it is past time that the laws of our nation reflect it. That is why I am urging my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill. It goes sans saying that I strongly encourage its immediate consideration and passage in the Senate.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 2, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 3

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Polly Ellen Trottenberg, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation.

SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Brenda Mallory, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality, and Janet Garvin McCabe, of Indiana, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-562

Committee on Finance

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, Katherine C. Tai, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, and Adeyale O. Adeyemo, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury.

SH-216

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Wendy Ruth Sherman, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, and Brian P. McKeon, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, both of the Department of State.

SD-106/VTC

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Committee on Rules and Administration

To hold a joint hearing to examine the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol.

SD-G50/WEBEX

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of veterans services organizations.

WEBEX

MARCH 4

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Colin Hackett Kahl, of California, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider subcommittee assignments for the 117th Congress, and the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of David Turk, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Energy.

SD-366

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To continue hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of veterans services organizations.

WEBEX

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine how the financial system hurts workers and widens the racial wealth gap.

WEBEX

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Shalanda D. Young, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Director, and Jason Scott Miller, of Maryland, to be Deputy Director for Management, both of the Office of Management and Budget.

SD-342/WEBEX

MARCH 9

9 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lisa O. Monaco, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General, and Vanita Gupta, of Virginia, to be Associate Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice.

SH-216

MARCH 18

10 a.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To resume hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of veterans services organizations.

WEBEX